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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/026,557	12/27/2001	Yoshiko Akazawa	1083.1084	9898

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EXAMINER

PARTON, KEVIN S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2153

DATE MAILED: 05/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/026,557

Applicant(s)

AKAZAWA ET AL.

Examiner

Kevin Parton

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 3, 5, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
3. Claims, 3, 5, and 7 recites the limitation "the PDF". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1, 2, 8-12, 15, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878).
6. Regarding claim 1, Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) teach an information providing system for providing provision information which is to be provided and registered in a central apparatus in response to a request from plural terminal devices which are connected to said central apparatus by a communication network, with means for:

- a. Accepting, by one terminal device, a provision information, a recipient information relating to a recipient who is authorized to receive said provision information, and a provision format of said provision information to be applied to said recipient (column 3, line 64 – column 4, line 2; column 4, lines 15-24).
 - b. Transmitting, by said one terminal device to said central apparatus, said accepted provision information, recipient information, and provision format (column 3, line 64 – column 4, line 2; column 4, lines 15-24; figure 1).
 - c. Registering, in said central apparatus, said transmitted provision information, recipient information, and provision format (column 4, lines 15-24).
 - d. Receiving, by said central apparatus, a request and recipient information transmitted from one of terminal devices (figure 2; column 4, lines 44-56).
 - e. Providing, by said central apparatus to said one of terminal devices which transmitted said request and recipient information, a registered provision information corresponding to the registered provision format based on said received recipient information (column 3, line 64 – column 4, line 2; column 4, lines 58-66).
7. Regarding claims 2 and 12, Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) teach an information providing system for providing provision information to be provided, comprising: a

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central apparatus in which provision information is registered (figure 1, element 12); and plural terminal devices which are connected to said central apparatus by a communication network (figure 1; column 3, lines 55-57), and issue a request for receiving provision information (figure 2; column 4, lines 44-56), wherein one terminal device includes a processor capable of performing the following operations of:

- a. Accepting a provision information, a recipient information relating to a recipient who is authorized to receive said provision information, and a provision format of said provision information to be applied to said recipient (column 3, line 64 – column 4, line 2; column 4, lines 15-24).
- b. Transmitting said accepted provision information, recipient information, and provision format to said central apparatus (column 3, line 64 – column 4, line 2; column 4, lines 15-24; figure 1).

said central apparatus includes a processor capable of performing the following operations of:

- a. Registering said provision information, recipient information, and provision format transmitted from said one terminal device (column 4, lines 15-24).
- b. Receiving a request and recipient information transmitted from one of terminal devices (figure 2; column 4, lines 44-56).
- c. Providing to said one of terminal devices which transmitted said request and recipient information a registered provision information corresponding to the registered provision format based on said

received recipient information (column 3, line 64 – column 4, line 2;
column 4, lines 58-66).

8. Regarding claims 8, 11, and 15, Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) teach a system for registering provision information to be provided to a computer, comprising a processor capable of performing the following operations of:

- a.** Accepting a provision information, a recipient information relating to a recipient who is authorized to receive said provision information, and a provision format of said provision information to be applied to said recipient (column 3, line 64 – column 4, line 2; column 4, lines 15-24).
- b.** Transmitting said accepted provision information, recipient information, and provision format to another computer (column 3, line 64 – column 4, line 2; column 4, lines 15-24; figure 1).

9. Regarding claims 9, 10, and 16, Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) teach a system for providing registered provision information to be provided in response to a request from a computer, comprising a processor capable of performing the following operations of:

- a.** Registering a provision information, recipient information relating to a recipient who is authorized to receive said provision information, and a provision format of said provision information to be applied to said recipient transmitted from exterior (column 4, lines 15-24).
- b.** Receiving a recipient information transmitted from another computer (figure 2; column 4, lines 44-56).

- c. Providing to said another computer a registered provision information corresponding to the registered provision format based on said received recipient information (column 3, line 64 – column 4, line 2; column 4, lines 58-66).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878).

12. Regarding claim 3, Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) teach all the limitations as applied to claim 2. They further teach means wherein provision format includes a read-only version which is converted from provision information and an original format which is not converted from provision information (column 3, line 64 – column 4, line 2).

Although the system disclosed by Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the read-only version is specifically a PDF.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and it would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878).

A person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying the system of Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) by

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providing a PDF as the read only version of the information. This benefits the system because a PDF can be read on a wide range of platforms and in many cases, cannot be altered.

13. Claims 4, 5, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) in view of D'Angelo (USPN 6,717,938).

14. Regarding claims 4 and 13, although the system disclosed by Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) (as applied to claims 2 and 12, respectively) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein:

- a. The processor of said one terminal device is further capable of performing an operation of accepting name disclosure information indicating whether or not a name of provider who provides the provision information to be disclosed.
- b. The operation of transmitting further transmitting said accepted name disclosure information.
- c. The operation of registering further registering a name disclosure information.
- d. The operation of providing further providing to said one of terminal devices which transmitted said request and recipient information a name of provider based on said received recipient information and said name disclosure information.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and it would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) as evidenced by D'Angelo (USPN 6,717,938).

In an analogous art, D'Angelo (USPN 6,717,938) discloses a system for controlling access to information wherein:

- a. The processor of said one terminal device is further capable of performing an operation of accepting name disclosure information indicating whether or not a name of provider who provides the provision information to be disclosed (column 20, lines 3-14).
- b. The operation of transmitting further transmitting said accepted name disclosure information (column 20, lines 3-14).
- c. The operation of registering further registering a name disclosure information (column 20, lines 3-14).
- d. The operation of providing further providing to said one of terminal devices which transmitted said request and recipient information a name of provider based on said received recipient information and said name disclosure information (column 20, lines 3-14).

Given the teaching of D'Angelo (USPN 6,717,938), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying the system of by allowing the provider to remain anonymous or provide name information. This benefits the system by allowing authors to receive feedback on their service or information without their identity being known.

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15. Regarding claim 5, Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) teach all the limitations as applied to claim 4. They further teach means wherein provision format includes a read-only version which is converted from provision information and an original format which is not converted from provision information (column 3, line 64 – column 4, line 2).

Although the system disclosed by Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the read-only version is specifically a PDF.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and it would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878).

A person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying the system of Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) by providing a PDF as the read only version of the information. This benefits the system because a PDF can be read on a wide range of platforms and in many cases, cannot be altered.

16. Claims 6, 7, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) in view of Bhagwat et al. (USPN 6,563,517).

17. Regarding claims 6 and 14, although the system disclosed by Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) (as applied to claims 2 and 12, respectively) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein:

- a. The operation of registering further registering auxiliary provision information whose information volume is reduced from said transmitted provision information.

- b. The processor of said central apparatus is further capable of performing an operation of judging whether a request from said one of terminal devices is transmitted through said network or through another network different from said network.
- c. The operation of providing further providing an auxiliary provision information according to said registered provision format to said one of terminal devices based on the received recipient information when it is judged that said one of terminal devices transmits the request through said another network.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and it would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) as evidenced by Bhagwat et al. (USPN 6,563,517).

In an analogous art, Bhagwat et al. (USPN 6,563,517) discloses a system for the provision of data wherein:

- a. The operation of registering further registering auxiliary provision information whose information volume is reduced from said transmitted provision information (column 5, lines 15-50).
- b. The processor of said central apparatus is further capable of performing an operation of judging whether a request from said one of terminal devices is transmitted through said network or through another network different from said network (column 5, lines 15-50).

- c. The operation of providing further providing an auxiliary provision information according to said registered provision format to said one of terminal devices based on the received recipient information when it is judged that said one of terminal devices transmits the request through said another network (column 5, lines 15-50).

Given the teaching of Bhagwat et al. (USPN 6,563,517), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying the system of Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) by providing information of different size to be sent based on the location of the requestor. This benefits the system by decreasing the amount of bandwidth required across the network and also decreasing download times. This is commonly known in the art.

18. Regarding claim 7, Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) teach all the limitations as applied to claim 6. They further teach means wherein provision format includes a read-only version which is converted from provision information and an original format which is not converted from provision information (column 3, line 64 – column 4, line 2).

Although the system disclosed by Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the read-only version is specifically a PDF.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and it would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878).

A person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying the system of Icken et al. (USPN 6,839,878) by

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providing a PDF as the read only version of the information. This benefits the system because a PDF can be read on a wide range of platforms and in many cases, cannot be altered.

Conclusion

19. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Please see the following:

- a. Kraenzel (USPN 6,513,039)
- b. Susaki et al. (USPN 6,189,032)
- c. Erickson (USPN 6,807,534)
- d. Applewhite et al. (USPN 6,711,575)

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Parton whose telephone number is (571)272-3958. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00AM - 4:30PM.

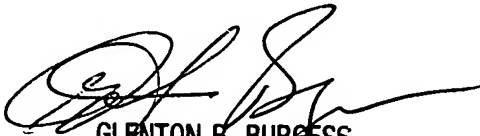
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess can be reached on (571)272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kevin Parton
Examiner
Art Unit 2153

ksp



GLENTON B. BURGESS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100